

REMARKS

Claims 7-10 and 13-16 are presented. Only claim 13 is independent. Each of the other claims depends directly or indirectly on claim 13.

Claim 1-12 (now mostly canceled) have been finally rejected. The rejection incorporates in its entirety the rejection set out in an earlier Office Action, mailed December 5, 2001. The rejection is under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over a U.S. patent to Sell No. 5,365,499 and a U.S. patent to McKay No. 5,883,360.

The rejection is respectfully traversed on the ground that independent claim 13, and therefore all of the claims, are directed to structure that the documents relied upon neither disclose nor suggest.

The claims as now presented are directed to a clock comprising a housing with a face, a magnifying lens that can overlie the face, and a cover that covers the lens and face when the clock is stored and uncovers at least the face when the clock is deployed for displaying the time. The lens is adjacent the face when the cover covers the lens and face and is moved away from the face in response to uncovering of the face by the cover.

The Sell patent discloses a snooze alarm having a housing including a depressible snooze actuator in the housing and movable between an off position and on position. The clock has a lid hingedly connected to the housing and containing a clock display. The lid has a portion that

contacts the snooze actuator in the off position when the lid is in a substantially closed position relative to the housing and that rests lightly on the snooze actuator. The portion of the lid that contacts the snooze actuator depresses the snooze actuator into the on position when the lid is pressed into a fully closed position against the housing.

The McKay patent discloses a wristwatch having a lens 16 (Figs. 1-3, 6 and 7), 116 (Fig. 4) or a pair of such lenses 216 and 230 (Fig. 5). The lenses can be moved in various ways for magnification purposes.

However, neither patent discloses the combination of features recited in claim 13, including a magnifying lens and a cover constructed so that the lens is moved away from the face in response to uncovering of the face by the cover.

In the preferred embodiment of the invention, this is accomplished by a cam groove 28 formed in a shaft 24. Note that in Fig. 1 of the application, for example, the lens housing 26 is adjacent the clock housing 29. That compact configuration is made possible when the cover 19 is in its covering position.

In contrast, as shown in Fig. 7, for example, when the cover 19 is pivoted to uncover the clock face, the lens housing 26 is automatically moved away from the clock face. The Examiner will appreciate that a magnifying lens is of little benefit when placed against the object to be magnified. For best effect, there must be a certain separation between the lens and the object to be magnified. The correct relationship is easily and automatically established in accordance with

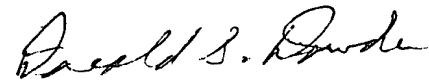
the invention.

This teaching does not appear in either of the documents relied upon. Therefore, even if one having ordinary skill in the art were to consult those documents (which is unlikely given their disparate subject matter), a key feature of the invention would not be discovered.

Since this amendment substantially reduces the number of claims and especially the number of independent claims, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner enter it. Moreover, since it clearly avoids the outstanding rejection, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner issue a formal notice of allowance.

If a telephone call would expedite prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to call undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,
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VERSIONS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 7-10 have been amended as follows:

–7. (Amended) A clock according to claim [6] 13 further comprising a shaft connecting the housing, the lens and the cover, wherein the lens can pivot on the shaft substantially 360 degrees relative to the face and cover and can be deployed to magnify an object other than the face.–

–8. (Amended) A clock according to claim [6] 7 wherein the cover and shaft can pivot substantially 180 degrees relative to the face.–

–9. (Amended) A clock according to claim [6] 7 wherein the cover and shaft can pivot substantially 180 degrees relative to the face, and comprising moving means constructed so that, when the cover and shaft pivot from a condition wherein the cover covers the face to a condition wherein the cover uncovers the face, the separation along the axis of the shaft between the lens and face increases.–

–10. (Amended) A clock according to claim 9 wherein the moving means comprises a helical cam concentric with the [axis] shaft and fixed relative to one of the cover and face and a cam follower operatively associated with the cam and fixed relative to the other of the cover and face.–

Claims 1-6, 11 and 12 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 13-16 have been added.

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